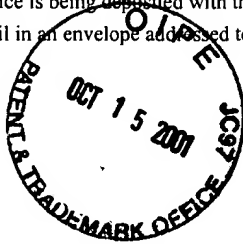


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



Attorney Docket No.: 019281-001200US

PATENT

On October 4, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Tara A. Ohler

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

John J. Sie et al.

Application No.: 09/687,140

Filed: October 12, 2000

For: METHOD FOR AUTHORIZING  
LIMITED PROGRAMMING  
DISTRIBUTION

Examiner:

Art Unit: 2711

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

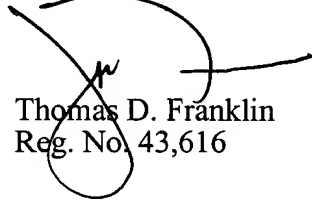
The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas D. Franklin  
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